



CBU

GORDON AND JILL BOURNS

College of Engineering

CIVIL ENGINEERING | CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

NEWSLETTER

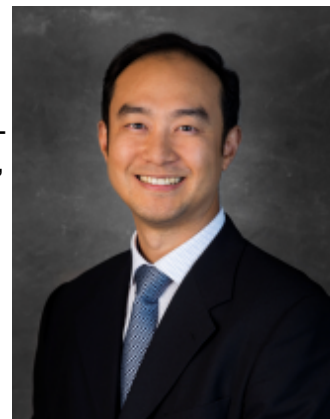


Message from the Chair

Dear friends and colleagues,

As we conclude the 2025-26 academic year, I would like to take a moment to share several highlights and express my gratitude for the many ways our department has grown and been blessed this year. We have seen continued progress in student engagement, industry partnership, outreach, and academic achievement, and I am thankful for the dedication of our faculty, staff, and students.

This year also marks the conclusion of my service as department chair after 12 years in this role. It has been a privilege to serve our students, faculty, and the broader CBU community, and I am deeply grateful for the support and encouragement I have received over the years. Beginning in July 2026, Dr. Michael Nalbandian will assume leadership of the department. I am confident that he will lead with wisdom and dedication, and I look forward to seeing the department continue to grow under his guidance.



Throughout the year, we strengthened our connection with industry through activities such as an AISC facility tour, multiple visits to construction sites and professional offices, and information session hosted by local industry representatives. These experiences provided our students with valuable exposure to real-world engineering and construction practices while reinforcing the importance of professionalism and leadership.

We also remained committed to outreach and community engagement by hosting the CECM Summer Camp, the CBU Gingerbread House Shakedown, and National Surveyors Day at CBU. In addition, our faculty and students presented their research at both local and international conferences, reflecting our ongoing commitment to academic excellence and innovation in engineering education and practice.

Student success remains one of our greatest highlights. Many of our students received scholarships and completed internships with civil engineering and construction companies, as well as with city and county agencies. Our students also represented CBU with excellence in competitions, earning 2nd place in Surveying and 2nd place in the Steel Bridge stiffness category at the PSWS hosted by Cal State LA, and participating in the ASC Reno Competition.

As we look ahead, we ask for your continued prayers and support as we prepare for next year's capstone projects, competitions, and ongoing outreach efforts. We are grateful for the partnership of our alumni, friends, and industry supporters who make these opportunities possible.

Thank you for being part of our journey.

Blessings,

Jong-Wha Bai, Ph.D., P.E.

In This Issue

- | | |
|---|--|
| 02 Message from the Chair | 13 Program Outreach II |
| 03 Faculty Highlights I | 14 CE Testimonials |
| 04 Faculty Highlights II | 15 CM Testimonials |
| 05 CE Student Spotlight | 16 Students' Achievement |
| 06 CM Student Spotlight | 17 Engineering Design Showcase |
| 07 ASCE Student Activities | 18 Industry Advisory Council |
| 08 PSWS Competition | 19 Graduation and Statistics of the Department |
| 09 ASC Student Activities I | 20 Accreditation |
| 10 Reno Competition | 21 Donation by Knuppe Construction |
| 11 Coaches & Sponsors for Student Competition | 22 New Courses |
| 12 Program Outreach I | 23 Upcoming Events and QR Codes/Make a Gift |

Faculty Highlights

Dr. Humberto Gallegos

Dr. Gallegos remains highly engaged, actively balancing outreach efforts, research initiatives, student competition support, and grant writing. He is also continuing his professional development by enrolling in online community college courses to strengthen his skills in 3D modeling, programming, GD&T, and AI best practices. In terms of outreach, Dr. Gallegos recently served on a judging panel at Casa Blanca Elementary School in Riverside and delivered several Career Technical Education presentations at community colleges, focusing on Geospatial Engineering and related technologies. He continues to support both Construction Management (CM) and Civil Engineering (CE) students through involvement in ASC and ASCE student competitions. Currently, he serves as co-advisor for CBU's ASCE student chapter and as a mentor for ASC competition teams.



Looking ahead, Dr. Gallegos aims to secure NSF funding to support educator training in STEM, as well as advance research in water resources and structural damage modeling.

Dr. Jay Lee

Dr. Lee is a full-time faculty member in the CM program and has been serving as a Program Evaluator (PEV) for ABET since 2016. Dr. Lee's research interest is in information technology and strategic decision-making practices in various engineering management fields. His current research topics include using a 3D scanner for the analysis of as-built drawings and advanced Building Information Modeling (BIM) applications. He strives to bring in his research experiences to his classroom and continues to help his students in learning new applications for construction management. He recently finished his sabbatical leave and presented his research project outcomes during the ASEE Annual Conference in June 2025. Below is the summary of his research experience during his sabbatical leave.

Dr. Lee's sabbatical project is to conduct an analysis of an existing building structure and build a 3D digital model using a laser scanner. The project highlights the potential of 3D scanning technology that can be used to optimize construction processes, improve accuracy in inspection, and facilitate data-driven decision-making in the built environment. This project is essentially a case study on a 1085-sf multimedia lab in an engineering building, focusing on ensuring the accuracy and consistency of point cloud data for potential future work. The project follows a five-step process: 1) Using a 3D scanner to gather point cloud data from an existing building, 2) Measuring the existing room using the collected point cloud, 3) Comparing the measurement with in-situ measurements for validation and quality assessment using statistical analysis methods, 4) Developing a BIM model based on the collected point cloud data, and 5) Rendering the 3D model to enhance realistic finish.



Faculty Highlights

Dr. Jong-Wha Bai

In 2025-26, Dr. Bai attended the Timber Design Workshop at Clemson University and moderated a technical session at the ASCE CA Infrastructure Symposium. He also remained actively engaged in STEM outreach by hosting the CECM Summer Camp and the CBU Gingerbread House Shakedown, and by continuing to lead hands-on activities for RUSD STEM teachers and local high school students.

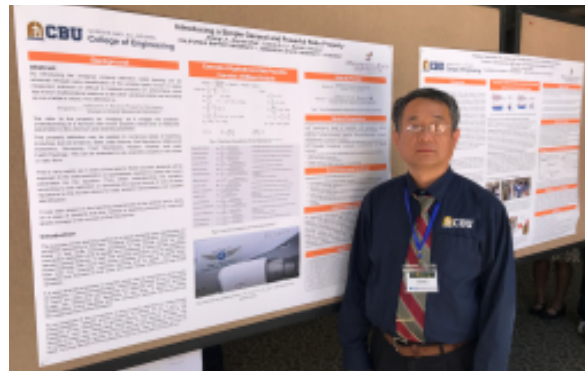


Dr. Jiliang Li

Dr. Jiliang Li attended the USUCGER Early Career Workshop sponsored by NSF at Georgia Tech. Georgia Tech awarded him a NSF sponsored external travel support stipend award in support of his participation at the workshop. He also attended the NSF sponsored 2025 ASCE mini ExCEED workshop at CPP. CPP awarded him an NSF sponsored travel support Grant of \$1500.00 stipend Award in Support of Participation of ExCEED ETW (Educate Teachers Workshop). Furthermore, Dr. Li had the following two papers mentioned below presented at the ASEE Zone IV Conference at Cal Poly Pomona. One of which included CBU Civil Engineering student, Kaleb Limtiaco as a co-author.

Jiliang Li, J. Zhai (2026) Making Connection of the Teaching, Learning and Instructions of Different Subject Courses' Laboratories with Upper Level Engineering, ASEE Zone IV (4) Conference, Cal Poly Pomona, California, April 16-18, 2026.

J. Li, J. Zhai, C. A. Li, K. Limtiaco (2026) Introducing a Simple General and Powerful Ratio Property, ASEE Zone IV (4) Conference, Cal Poly Pomona, California, April 16-18, 2026.



Student Spotlight: Jenna (Civil Engineering)



Who Jenna Is

“My name is Jenna. I was born and raised in the Central Valley of California. I have studied civil engineering at CBU for the past four years, also minoring in environmental science. I have enjoyed many on-campus activities at CBU, such as intramurals, field trips, and club activities. I have been involved with ASCE for the past three years, serving as multi-media coordinator and contributing to projects such as transportation design, steel bridge, and concrete canoe. I am also a member of the environmental science club and botany club.”

Reason for Choosing Civil Engineering at CBU

“In high school, I developed an appreciation for the complex yet logical nature of math and science courses. Civil engineering applies mathematics and thoughtful design to the relationship between creation and humanity. What better way to honor the Lord than to apply the gifts he has given me than to design sustainable solutions to humanity's challenges within creation? When choosing a university, a Christ-centered education and community was my highest priority. I couldn't be more grateful that I chose CBU. The Lord has provided me with caring professors, amazing classmates, and lifelong friends throughout my time at CBU. “

Jenna's Plan After Graduation

“For the past three summers, I have had the privilege to intern at Siegfried Engineering in Stockton, CA. I get to design and work on plans for projects such as hospitals, schools, parks, and more! I have been working part-time remote for Siegfried from CBU's campus during my senior year. In January, I passed the FE and obtained my EIT. Upon graduation, I plan to return to my hometown, join Siegfried as a full-time Design Engineer, and continue to seek God's wisdom and guidance in all I do!”

Student Spotlight: Chris (Construction Management)



"Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand"
Isaiah 41:10 ESV

Who Chris Is

Chris is a senior at California Baptist University graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Construction Management. Throughout his time at CBU, Chris has focused on developing both professionally and personally while striving to integrate his faith into the way he approaches leadership, work, and service. While attending school, he worked part-time as a Project Engineer Intern with Tilden-Coil Constructors, gaining valuable hands-on experience on impactful projects such as the Mayfield Junior School Parking Garage Expansion and the Pacific High School Program. Chris has also been involved in the Associated Schools of Construction (ASC), which allowed him to further engage with the construction community and collaborate with peers who share the same passion for the industry. These experiences have strengthened his understanding of construction and reinforced his desire to contribute to projects that positively serve others.

Reason for Choosing Construction Management at CBU

Chris chose to pursue Construction Management because he was drawn to the meaningful impact the industry has on communities and the opportunity to lead teams in building projects that serve others. The Construction Management program at CBU stood out because it combines strong technical training with a Christ-centered emphasis on service and leadership. Through classes that he took in scheduling, estimating, safety, and project management, Chris developed the technical foundation necessary to succeed in the field while also learning the importance of humility, accountability, and teamwork. Being part of a faith-centered learning environment reinforced the idea that leadership in construction is ultimately about serving others and stewarding projects with integrity and excellence.

Chris's Plan After Graduation

After graduation, Chris will begin his career as a Project Engineer with Tilden-Coil Constructors, where he looks forward to continuing to grow within the industry and contribute to impactful construction projects. The Construction Management program at CBU has prepared him with both the hard and soft skills necessary to succeed in a fast-paced and collaborative environment. From technical competencies such as scheduling, estimating, and building information modeling, to personal skills including communication, leadership, and problem-solving, the program has provided a well-rounded foundation for his career. Chris is grateful for the mentorship, hands-on opportunities, and faith-based education he received from his professors at CBU, and he is excited to apply those lessons as he begins the next chapter of his professional journey.



Student Activities — ASCE

CBU ASCE had a very successful year, continuing to compete well at PSWS 2026 and giving members more opportunities to continue with industry leaders. We competed in the GeoWall and 3D Printing PSWS competitions for the first time in school history, and sent a record number of students to compete at PSWS 2026 hosted at Cal State LA.

This year saw our club's highest member participation ever and created more opportunities for members to connect with each other and the industry. In the fall, our club participated in the AISC Steel Days, visiting a local steel worker training facility where members were able to climb steel beams, practice welding with instructors, and connect with AISC leaders. Our club also had the opportunity to visit the CalTrans District 8 Headquarters in Fontana where we met with engineers, toured the material labs, and tested out some of their construction robots.

As the club continues to grow and strive for excellence beyond the classroom, we look forward with eager anticipation to what comes next for the club. We are excited to announce we will be partnering with USC and LMU to host PSWS 2027 which will provide members more opportunities to lead within the industry and will be a milestone for our club as we take on more challenges for members to solve.



ASCE PSWS Competition

CBU ASCE proudly participated in the 2026 Pacific Southwest Symposium (PSWS), competing in a wide range of events including Steel Bridge, Concrete Canoe, Timber Strong, Surveying, Transportation, 3D Bridge, Geowall, and Environmental Design. Across all competitions, the program showed significant growth and delivered some of its strongest performances to date.

The Surveying team led the way with an outstanding 2nd place overall finish, demonstrating a high level of technical precision and strong field execution against a competitive group of universities.

The Steel Bridge team also delivered a standout performance, earning 2nd place in the stiffness category with a total deflection of just 0.187 inches under a 2,500 lb load, which is the lowest deflection in school history. In addition, the bridge was constructed in 21 minutes and 27 seconds, setting a new program record for fastest build time and highlighting major improvements in both design and construction efficiency.

In the nontechnical events, the soccer team earned 2nd place overall, with two matches going to golden goal. Both game-winning goals were scored by Nathan Arndt, showcasing the team's resilience and ability to perform under pressure.

Across all teams, including Concrete Canoe, Timber Strong, Transportation, 3D Bridge, Geowall, and Environmental Design, there was clear and measurable improvement in both technical performance and teamwork. These results reflect the dedication, long hours, and commitment of every team member involved.

CBU ASCE continues to build momentum as a program, and we are excited to carry this progress forward and achieve even greater success in the years ahead.



Student Activities — AEC

The AEC (Architecture, Engineering, Construction) Club provided students with a variety of activities designed to enhance both professional skills and industry knowledge. Members participated in OSHA 10 safety trainings, giving them a strong foundation in construction safety standards. The club also attended major industry events such as AGC Construct and the ASC Reno Competition, allowing members to observe cutting-edge projects, network with professionals, and gain insight into the latest trends in architecture, engineering, and construction. In addition, AEC hosted lunch and learn sessions and hands-on activities with top contractors including Swinerton, Griffith, Edison, Whiting-Turner, and Hensel Phelps. The club also organized site visits to local construction projects, giving members the chance to see real-world projects in progress and gain practical, on-site experience. By combining safety training, professional exposure, interactive learning, and site visits, the AEC Club has prepared its members to enter the workforce with confidence and a strong understanding of the industry.



AGC Conference

Six student members of the AEC Club attended the 2025 AGC Construct Conference in Palm Springs. The four day event allows students to network with students from other universities and industry professionals, develop their resume and interview skills, and attend informational seminars hosted by event sponsors. The main topics apart from these seminars included the plan for expansions in the Palm Springs area, how the greater LA area is building to get ready for the 2028 Olympics, and how AI can be implemented in everyday construction practices.



OSHA 10-Hour Training

The CM program along with the AEC club hosted three sessions of OSHA safety training for 10 hour certificates in August 2025 and January 2026 in the Engineering building. The OSHA training was free and was supported by the Associated General Contractors (AGC) of California. 46 CBU students along with 7 CBU faculty and staff received OSHA 10 hour certificates.



Reno Student Competition

The Design-Build team was tasked with completing a schedule, estimate, project management, site logistics, and design for a wastewater treatment facility located in Pasco, WA. The facility we were asked to construct consisted of an educational center, control building, waste treatment center, two wastewater retention ponds, and five utility pads. The team estimated that the project would cost a total of \$120.18 million over its two and a half year duration.

“Reno readies you for internships while also giving you the opportunity to network with over 50 industry leaders and students from around the country. Furthermore, the camaraderie built amongst the team leading up to the competition is amazing. Without a doubt one of the best opportunities you will have to progress your career while at CBU.”

- Micah, Design-Build Team Captain



The Commercial team was challenged to develop a comprehensive bid proposal for a 92,000 SF, three-story Lifetime Fitness facility in Paradise Valley, Arizona. The project was delivered using the design-bid-build method with a Guaranteed Maximum Price and included high-end amenities such as a rooftop pool and bar, spa and salon, childcare center, locker rooms with saunas and cold plunges, and extensive fitness spaces. The team was required to prepare a full cost estimate for concrete, CPM schedule 700 calendar days with a minimum of 500 activities, site logistics plan, staffing plan, safety plan, quality control strategy, change management analysis, and trade partner bid tabs while responding to real-time RFIs and addenda under strict deadlines. “I highly recommend the Reno Competition to all Construction Management students because it bridges the gap between classroom knowledge and real industry expectations. It challenges students technically and professionally while building teamwork, confidence, and resilience under pressure.”

- Juan, Commercial Team Captain

The Preconstruction team was tasked with a project focusing directly on the Alameda Island New Wastewater Treatment Plant, a large infrastructure project located on a manmade island in California. It involved the ground-up construction of a state-of-the-art facility designed to provide primary, secondary, and tertiary treatment along with supporting buildings, wetlands, and site infrastructure. The team was required to develop a full preconstruction proposal including a conceptual schedule, preconstruction pricing and budgeting, risk analysis, site logistics, and technical approaches to safety and constructability.

“I would strongly recommend participation in the Reno competition because it provides hands-on experience that mirrors industry expectations, strengthens leadership and collaboration skills, and prepares students for professional roles after graduation.”

- Bryan, Preconstruction Team Captain



Industry Sponsors & Coaches for Student Competitions

2026 PSWS Competition Sponsors

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the PSWS sponsors. Your generous support made it possible for us to participate in this unforgettable experience, and we are truly grateful for the opportunities you've helped create for our teams.



Ames Construction



2026 Reno Competition Sponsors

We sincerely appreciate the time, effort, and expertise provided by our incredible coaches. Your guidance and mentorship have been invaluable to our team's success in the Reno Competition! We would also like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the Reno competition sponsors. Your generous support made it possible for us to participate in this unforgettable experience, and we are truly grateful for the opportunities you've helped create for our teams.



2026 Reno Competition Coaches

Commercial team



Ms. Kory Saldana and her team

Design-build team



Mr. Casey Olsen and his team

Pre-construction team



Ms. Sammi Shepherd and her team

Program Outreach

Summer Camp

The Civil Engineering and Construction Management (CECM) Department at CBU hosted its 2025 CECM Summer Camp from July 15 to 17. The camp was designed for 5th-8th graders to introduce them to STEM and Engineering, with 29 participants led by 6 CECM faculty members. Students were engaged in various sessions in the topics of construction management, surveying, water pipe design, and shake table testing. They had a great time learning through hands-on activities in engineering and technology.



Gingerbread Shakedown

The Civil Engineering and Construction Management (CECM) Department hosted its 2025 Gingerbread House Shakedown event on Dec. 12 with the CBU American Society of Civil Engineers student chapter. Thirteen teams with 59 students from ten local high schools participated. Four local engineers served as mentors and judges. The APWA (American Public Works Association) Inland Empire branch provided \$1,000 to cover cash prizes and the cost for materials.



Program Outreach

National Surveyors Week

Leaders in land surveying from Riverside County, WestLAND Group, and Cal Poly Pomona civil engineering department visited CBU to help us celebrate National Surveyors Week. The presentations covered a range of technical topics, career insights, and student support guidance aimed at preparing and encouraging the next generation of engineering and professional land surveyors. It was a great opportunity for students to connect with industry professionals and learn more about the important role surveying plays in engineering and infrastructure.



Seven Oaks Dam Visit

The students had an incredible opportunity to visit the fourth-largest embankment dam in the United States. During the tour, they observed controlled low-flow releases from the dam and gained valuable insight into its operational functions. They also watched an informative video detailing the construction history of the structure, which provided important context regarding its engineering design and regional significance. One of the most memorable experiences was walking inside the main tunnel of the dam, allowing students to directly observe the scale and complexity of the infrastructure. The trip was organized by San Bernardino County, and we are grateful for their support in making this educational experience possible.



Testimonials: CE Program

Our office is in a market dominated by civil engineering graduates from Cal Poly, Pomona. Not to mention that until a few years ago the Inland Empire universities didn't have a civil engineering program. A few years ago, that changed when CBU introduced the first civil engineering program in the inland empire. This positive direction continued when I represented the local ASCE branch during the ABET accreditation process sought by CBU. Ever since then we have added CBU civil engineering students to our HDR recruitment process.

The HDR Riverside office hired Chris De La Fuente as a civil engineering intern in 2024, after which he became full time in 2025. I'm proud to say the first CBU civil engineering alumni hired in the Riverside office. We are very pleased to have Chris join HDR. He is focused and shows potential to grow successfully within our organization. HDR looks forward to recruiting more talented CBU graduates like Chris to help us reach our project objectives.



Bill Flores

Senior Project Manager
HDR Engineering, Inc.



Alexandra

Construction Engineer
FlatironDragados

"I graduated from California Baptist University in 2025 with a Bachelor's in Civil Engineering and a Minor in Construction Management. CBU's Construction Engineering program definitely prepared me for real world applications! The professors took the time to get to know their students and provided personal guidance not only in course material, but also in career and life advice. I appreciated the technical construction knowledge taught as well as the development of professional soft skills.

The networking opportunities available through the CE program and the College of Engineering also helped me secure multiple internships, allowing me to gain valuable hands-on experience that ultimately led to my current position. I would absolutely recommend the CE program to any high school student considering! The construction industry is constantly expanding and evolving - there will always be a need for more people and a variety of skill sets. Not only is it a practical and promising career path, but it is also genuinely enjoyable and rewarding. Many students are introduced to construction management through family connections or by growing up around the industry, but I would encourage students without that background to explore it as well. It may seem overwhelming at first, but there is so much to gain from this unique industry. With the wide range of positions and projects available, the possibilities within this field are truly endless."



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Testimonials: CM Program



Andrew
VDC Engineer
Turner Construction Company

“I graduated from California Baptist University in 2022 with a Bachelor’s in Construction Management. I started at CBU as a freshman in Fall of 2018. I had my mind set on CBU as a sophomore in high school, originally wanting to major in Architecture but switching to CM a few months before enrolling. CBU’s CM program gave me an in-depth introduction to the world of construction for someone who knew surprisingly little about it. The program teaches construction fundamentals including safety, contracts, and building structures and practices, while also diving deeper into more specific careers like BIM, estimating, scheduling, and engineering.

The CM program at CBU is unique in the sense that it focuses heavily on character while promoting excellence in construction. The professors at CBU as a whole care not only of the quality of each student’s education, but more importantly the development of their individuality and ability to be a light in an industry that desperately needs it. Any university can teach the fundamentals of construction, but having professors and fellow students who push you towards both excellence in your career and strength in your faith truly provides the preparation needed for the real world.”



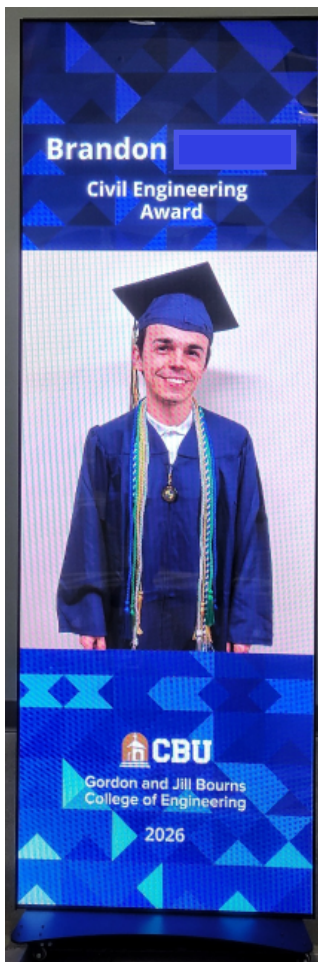
2025 Engineering Career and Internship Fair

Students' Achievement

'25-26 COE Scholarship Winners

- Brandon H. – CE Student
- Autumn M. – CE Student
- Connor M. – CE Student
- Theodore S. – CE Student
- Andrew T. – CE Student
- Colton W. – CE Student
- Isaac A. – CE Student
- Isaiah H. – CE Student
- Daniel M. – CE Student
- Jonah O. – CE Student
- Avery R. – CE Student
- Deborah T. – CE Student
- Garrett W. – CE Student
- Kaden Y. – CE Student
- Peter E. – CE Student
- Thomas J. – CE Student
- Hank N. – CE Student
- Javier S. – CE Student
- Levi S. – CE Student
- Joshua B. – CE Student
- Abigail M. – CE Student
- John P. – CE Student
- Miles W. – CE Student
- Dakota D. – CM Student
- John C. – CM Student

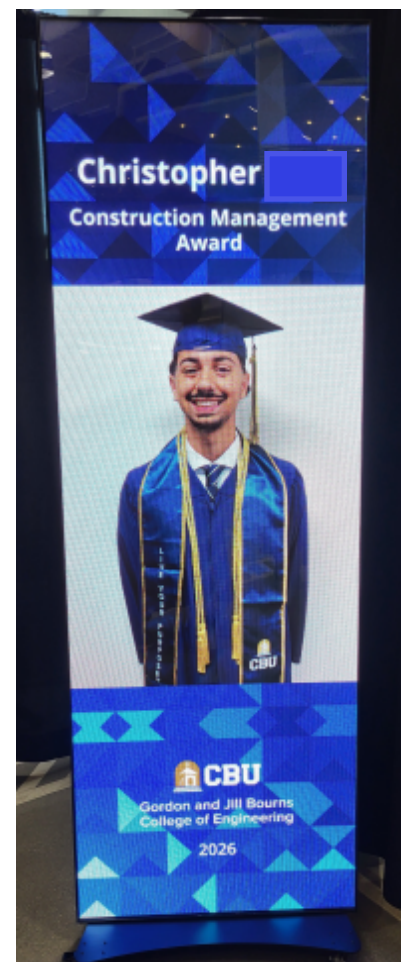
'25-26 Outstanding Student Awardees



Brandon – CE Student



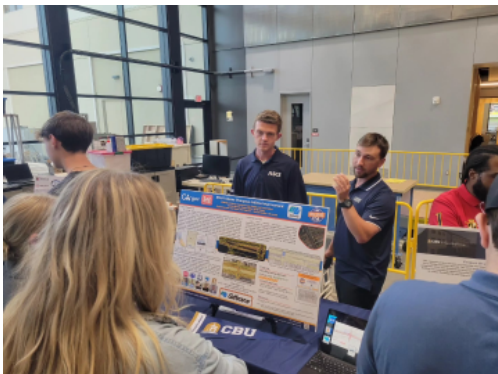
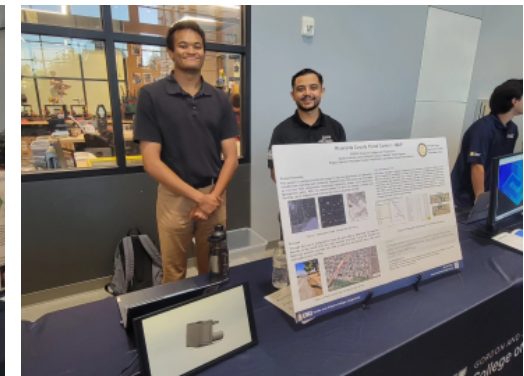
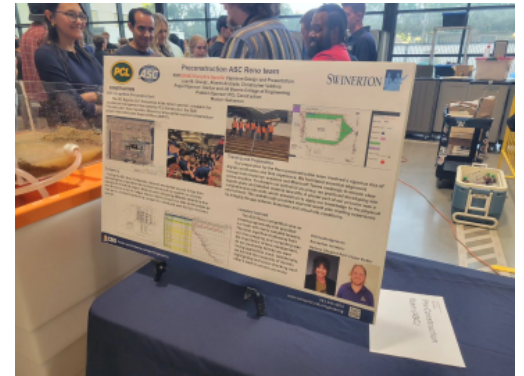
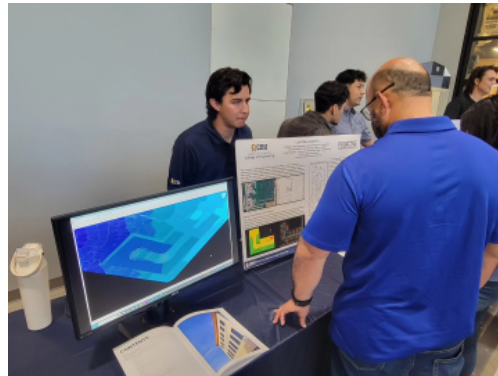
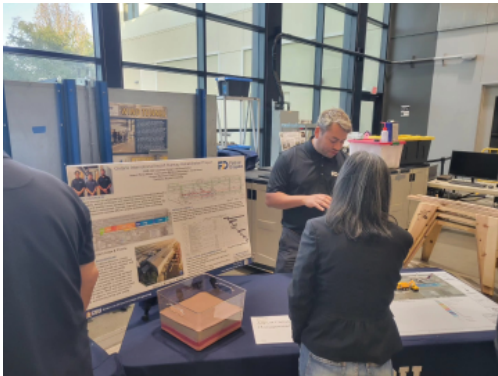
Jenna – CE Student



Christopher – CM student

Engineering Design Showcase

The 2025-2026 CECM capstone projects have been filled with an amazing suite of projects from construction management to civil design. The design spectrum ranges from flood control, building and structural design, land development, dam monitoring investigations, water quality and construction management projects. CBU's CECM department is overwhelmingly blessed to facilitate the accomplishments of these projects through the support of 36 seniors and amazing mentors. Final deliverables included a show case poster presentation to CBU's College of Engineering and both a final technical presentation & report. Each project required the usage of both hard and soft skills.



Industry Advisory Council

Message from the Industry Advisory Council Chair

It has been a privilege to serve as Chair of the California Baptist University Civil Engineering and Construction Management (CE&CM) Industry Advisory Council for the past three years, and to have been part of the Council since its inception. Throughout this time, my focus has been on strengthening the connection between the university and the construction industry. By working alongside a committed group of industry professionals and faculty, we have helped ensure that the CE&CM program remains aligned with current industry practices and future workforce needs.

One of the most rewarding aspects of my involvement has been supporting student development. Expanding opportunities for internships, increasing industry interaction, and encouraging real-world exposure have all contributed to better preparing students for their careers. It has been encouraging to see the program continue to produce graduates who are well-equipped to enter the industry with confidence. I have also appreciated the strong collaboration between the Council and faculty. The department's willingness to engage with industry feedback and continuously improve the program has been a key driver of its success.

While this marks the conclusion of my term as Chair, I look forward to continuing my involvement as a member of the Council. It has been an honor to serve in this role, and I am excited to see the continued growth and impact of the CE&CM program in the years ahead.



Kevin Terry, CCM
President & CEO
Tovey Shultz Construction

Current IAC Board Members

- Andrew Spousta, Development & Construction Manager, Kennedy Wilson
- CJ Viola, Senior Project Manager, Tilden-Coil
- David McMillan, County Surveyor, County of Riverside
- Jake Williams, Senior Project Manager, BNBuilders
- Jason Howarth, Program Executive, Tilden-Coil
- Jason Uhley, General Manager, Riverside County Flood Control
- Jay Hover, Senior Project Manager, Perera Construction
- Jeff Meiter, CEO/ President, Valued Engineering
- John Rogers, Senior Civil Engineer, Inland Empire Survey
- Keith Pokrywa, CEO and President, Perera Construction
- Matt Kraus, Partner, Lester & Cantrell LLP
- Rean Kailiuli, Deputy Project Director, Astaldi Construction
- Richard O'Neill, Associate Principal, Rick Engineering
- Robert Stockes, Regional Leader, DPR Construction
- Timothy Glaser, Director- Project Controls, Skanska
- Tom Howell, Principal, Holt Architecture



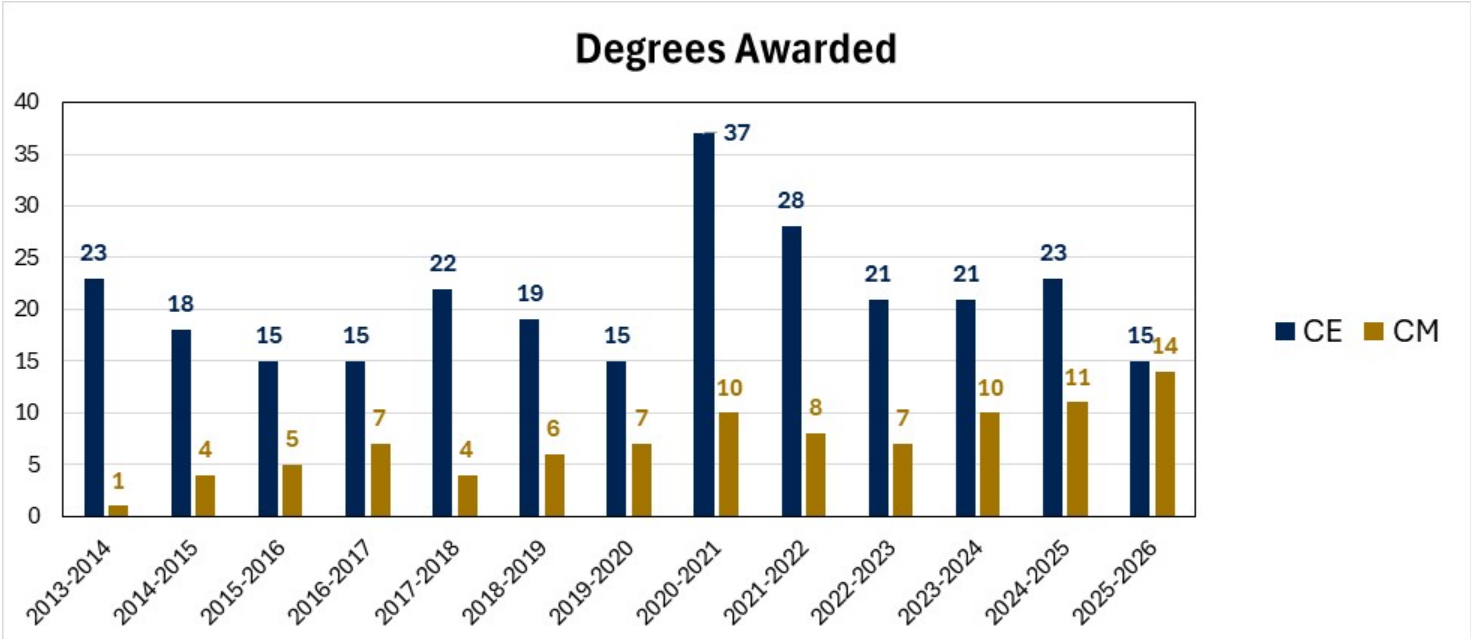
Graduation and Statistics



The Department of CE&CM celebrated graduation of 15 CE and 14 CM students in 2025-2026.



"For we live by faith, not by sight." - 2 Corinthians 5:7



Accreditation

The CE program is accredited by **Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET)**, and the CM program is accredited by **American Council for Construction Education (ACCE)**.



Engineering
Accreditation
Commission



The CBU Construction Management program has earned a full seven-year reaccreditation from the American Council for Construction Education (ACCE) without any deficiencies or weaknesses.

This achievement would not have been possible without the commitment and support from the CE&CM industry advisory council, graduates, and the program partners.



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Donation by Knuppe Construction

A new endowment is set to secure the future of the construction management program at California Baptist University, providing steady funding to support growth and long-term success.

James and Barbara Knuppe have committed \$2 million to the program, which will be named in their honor. Through its endowment matching initiative, CBU will double the impact of their gift, creating a \$4 million endowment.

"I am deeply grateful to Jim and Bobbie for their enduring friendship, their continued generosity, and the significant role they've played in advancing CBU's mission," said Dr. Ronald L. Ellis, president of CBU.

James Knuppe, a housing and mini-storage developer, and his wife are longtime supporters of CBU.

"God opened the door to make a gift," he said. "I'm just a steward of this money, and I'll use it as He directs."

The gift is the largest commitment to the construction management program, said Dr. Phil van Haaster, dean of the Gordon and Jill Bourns College of Engineering.

"The naming of the H. James and Barbara Knuppe Construction Management Program is a fitting tribute," van Haaster said. "It represents not only the Knuppe's extraordinary generosity, but also their enduring belief in the power of Christian higher education to transform lives and professions."

Paul Eldridge, vice president for University Advancement, said the gift will benefit generations of students.

"Jim and Bobbie Knuppe have long been pillars of support for California Baptist University," Eldridge said.

"From investing in scholarships to advancing new initiatives, their legacy is woven into the fabric of this campus."

Over the years, the Knuppes have given more than \$4 million to areas across campus, including the College of Nursing, the School of Business, the aviation science program and endowed scholarships. The CBU prayer chapel in the Eugene and Billie Yeager Center is named in their honor. The Knuppes have a number of grandchildren who are CBU alumni.



New Courses

The CECM department continues to integrate the advancement in the construction and engineering industry to its curriculum for better education. The following Civil Engineering or Construction Management courses will be available in the programs' curricula.

ENGR 4000 Applied Geodesy and Digital Surveying Technologies (3 units) in Fall 2026

This course introduces civil engineering and construction management majors to practical field and design applications commonly used in land development and construction projects. Students will learn the fundamentals of construction staking, basic site and land development design, and terrain analysis while applying industry-relevant software used in engineering and construction practice.



The course integrates emerging technologies such as virtual reality (VR) for project visualization, AI-assisted tools for design analysis, and terrain modeling techniques for site planning and grading. In addition, students will develop project management competencies through the application of earned value management (EVM) to monitor cost, schedule, and performance on simulated construction and engineering design projects. The course emphasizes hands-on learning that bridges field operations, digital design workflows, and project management practices used in modern infrastructure development.

CONM 3200 Construction Equipment Management (3 units) in Spring 2026

This course is designed to familiarize the students with the management principles of construction equipment productivity, selection, allocation, economics, and safety. The purpose of equipment management is to select an equipment combination that yields maximum safe production at the best or most reasonable cost for a given activity/project.

CONM 3600 Construction Site Management (3 units) in Spring 2028

Construction project management process to facilitate field operations on the jobsite. Topics include field organization, material procurement, site logistics, RFIs and submittals, change order, quality control process and Lean construction.

CONM 4200 Sustainable Construction (3 units) in Fall 2027

Principles and practices of green and sustainable construction projects including sustainable site development, water use efficiency, renewable energy, improving material use, indoor environmental quality and design innovation. The U.S. Green Building Council Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) criteria are discussed. Major alternatives to LEED are also covered.

Want to be learn more about our programs?



CE Program



CM Program



CM *LinkedIn* page

Upcoming Events

- July 14-16, 2026 - CECM Summer Camp @CBU
- October 7, 2026 - CBU Engineering Fair
- November, 2026 - CECM Industry Advisory Council Fall Meeting
- December, 2026 - CBU Fall 2026 Commencement
- December, 2026 - Gingerbread House Shakedown
- February 2027 - ASC Regions 6 & 7 Student Competition at Nugget Casino Resort in Sparks, NV
- April, 2027 - Pacific Southwest Symposium (PSWS) hosted by LUM, USC and CBU
- April, 2027 - CBU Spring 2027 Commencement

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